Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-16 (Canceled)

17. (Withdrawn) A method of reproducing a signal from a magneto-optical recording medium including at least first, second and third magnetic layers, which are layered in this order, wherein said first magnetic layer is formed of a perpendicularly magnetized film which a relatively small wall coercivity and a relatively large wall mobility compared with said third magnetic layer in a vicinity of a predetermined temperature, and the wall coercivity of which changes as temperature changes in a vicinity of the predetermined temperature, said method comprising the steps of:

emitting a light beam onto the magneto-optical recording medium from a side of said first magnetic layer so as to copy a signal recorded in said third magnetic layer to said first magnetic layer and to move a domain wall of a magnetic domain corresponding to the signal copied to said first magnetic layer; and

controlling an intensity of said light beam so that a domain wall moved from the rear part of a light beam spot does not enter into the light beam spot, whereby only a signal entered in the light beam spot by the movement of a domain wall from a front part of the light beam spot is reproduced.

18. (Currently Amended) A magneto-optical recording medium comprising at least a first magnetic layer, a second magnetic layer and a third magnetic layer, which are layered in this order and so the second magnetic layer is directly disposed on the first magnetic layer, wherein:

said first magnetic layer is formed of a perpendicularly magnetized film having a relatively small wall coercivity and a relatively large wall mobility compared with the third magnetic layer in the vicinity of a predetermined temperature, where the magnetic wall coercivity at room temperature of the first magnetic layer is less than or equal to 32 kA/m,

wherein when a light beam whose intensity is controlled to be a predetermined intensity for reproducing a signal is emitted onto the magneto-optical recording medium while the light beam being moved relatively with respect to the magneto-optical recording medium, said first magnetic layer is composed so as to be characterized as having exhibits a larger magnetic wall coercivity at a rear part of the light beam spot than a front part of the light beam spot and so as to restrict movement of a domain wall located beyond the light beam spot rear part from moving into the light beam rear spot, and

wherein ~~a composition of~~ the first magnetic layer has is adjusted so as to have a compensation temperature of not higher than its Curie temperature and not lower than a Curie temperature of the second magnetic layer, and so as to restrict movement of the domain wall located beyond the light beam spot rear part when the magneto-optical recording medium is heated to a vicinity of its compensation temperature with application of the light beam for reproducing a signal.

19. (Withdrawn) A reproducing device applicable to a magneto-optical recording medium including at least a first magnetic layer, a second magnetic layer and a third magnetic layer, which are layered in this order, comprising:

light emitting means for emitting a light beam onto the magneto-optical recording medium when reproducing; and

control means for controlling an intensity of the light beam emitted from said light emitting means such that

i) a signal recorded in said third magnetic layer is copied to said first magnetic layer,

ii) a magnetic wall of a magnetic domain having copied thereto the signal is moved, and

iii) a domain wall moved from a rear part of the light beam spot does not enter into a light beam spot, and only a domain wall moved from a front part of the light beam enters into the light beam spot.

20. (Previously Presented) The magneto-optical recording medium of claim 18, wherein the first magnetic layer is composed so that the larger magnetic wall coercivity of the first magnetic layer is characterized as being such as to prevent the domain wall beyond the light beam spot rear part from moving into the light beam.

21. (Previously Presented) The magneto-optical recording medium of claim 18 wherein the first magnetic layer is composed such that when the light beam is emitted onto the magneto-optical recording medium, the domain wall beyond the light beam spot rear part does not move into the light beam and such that another domain wall within the light beam spot front part is moveable within the light beam.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) The magneto-optical recording medium of claim 18, wherein the second magnetic layer is composed so that a temperature of a portion of the second magnetic layer within the light beam spot rear portion is at or above its Curie temperature.

24. (Previously Presented) The magneto-optical recording medium of claim 23, wherein the second magnetic layer is composed so as to be characterized as having a Curie temperature that is lower than the Curie temperature of the first magnetic layer.

25 (Previously Presented) The magneto-optical recording medium as set forth in claim 18, wherein said first magnetic layer is composed such that, when the light beam whose intensity is controlled to be a predetermined intensity for reproducing a signal is emitted onto the magneto-optical recording medium while the light beam is being moved relative with respect to the magneto-optical recording medium, at the front part of the light beam the domain wall moves

and a magnetic domain is enlarged and while at the rear part of the light beam said first magnetic laver is heated to the vicinity of its compensation temperature and the domain wall beyond the light beam rear spot does not enter into the light beam.